

Message Text

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47

ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 AF-06 EA-09 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 INR-07

NSAE-00 PA-02 USIA-15 PRS-01 SP-02 PM-04 NSC-05 SS-15

/077 W

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R 181500Z AUG 75

FM AMEMBASSY CAIRO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5935

INFO AMEMBASSY ALGIERS

AMEMBASSY AMMAN

AMEMBASSY BEIRUT

AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS

AMEMBASSY KHARTOUM

AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV

AMEMBASSY TRIPOLI

AMEMBASSY TUNIS

AMEMBASSY TOKYO

UNCLAS CAIRO 8190

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PINT, LY

SUBJECT: ABORTIVE LIBYAN COUP REPORTED

1. CAIRO PRESS AUGUST 17 FINALLY SURFACED NEWS OF ABORTIVE LIBYAN COUP. BOTH GUMHURIYYA AND AKHBAR CLAIM "LATEST IN SERIES OF COUP ATTEMPTS OCCURRED "IN LAST FEW DAYS," AND WAS LED BY RCC MEMBERS HAWADI AND MUHAYSHI. REPORTEDLY, MUHAYSHI HAS FLED TO TUNISIA, HAWADI WAS INJURED WHILE BEING ARRESTED, AND MORE THAN 30 ARMY AND REPUBLIC GUARD COMMANDERS HAVE BEEN DETAILED. PAPERS REPORT THOSE PARTICIPATING IN COUP ATTEMPT INCLUDED OTHER RCC MEMBERS (UNNAMED), REPUBLICAN GUARD COMMANDERS IN TRIPOLI AND BENGHAZI, AND "LARGE NUMBER" OF ARMY COMMANDERS.

2. GUMHURIYYA AUGUST 18 ADDS FURTHER DETAILS. QADDHAFI HAS REPORTEDLY DISMISSED AIR FORCE COMMANDER SALIH AL-FIRJANI, APPOINTING SQUADRON LEADER SA'ID AL-KADIJI IN HIS PLACE.

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APER ALSO CITES LONDON DAILY EXPRESS AS ALLEGING QADDHAFI

HAS APPROPRIATED DOLS 80 MILLION FROM OIL REVENUE TO FINANCE
SABOTAGE OPERATIONS TO BE PERPETRATED WITH AID OF JAPANESE
RED ARMY TERRORISTS FROM KUALA LUMPUR. GUMHURIYYA ALSO CLAIMS
UNEXPLAINED EXPLOSION AT ZAITUNA HARBOR AUGUST 17 KILLED
FOUR PERSONS.

3. IN RELATED REPORTING, PAPERS ALSO GIVE CONTINUING HEAVY
COVERAGE TO PRES SADAT'S VISIT TO WESTERN BORDER AREAS. HE IS
REPORTED AS TELLING RALLY IN SIWA AUGUST 16 THAT HE HAS ALREADY
ISSUED DIRECTIVES TO STUDY IRRIGATION PROJECTS, ESTABLISH DATE
PROCESSING PLANT, BEGIN WEEKLY AIR SERVICE BETWEEN MATRUH AND
SIWA AND BUILD A HARD SURFACE ROAD FROM COAST TO OASIS. IN HIS
REMARKS, PRESIDENT REPORTEDLY STRESSED THAT EVERY CITIZEN'S DUTY
TO EGYPT IS THE SAME, WHETHER HE LIVES IN DESRT OR CITY.
EILTS

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: GOVERNMENT OVERTHROW, ALLEGATIONS, PLOTS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 18 AUG 1975
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: n/a
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: n/a
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01 JAN 1960
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1975CAIRO08190
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D750284-1171
From: CAIRO
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1975/newtext/t19750841/aaaabjpb.tel
Line Count: 76
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION NEA
Original Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: n/a
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: ellisoob
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 12 FEB 2003
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <12 FEB 2003 by ReddocGW>; APPROVED <22 JAN 2004 by ellisoob>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
06 JUL 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: ABORTIVE LIBYAN COUP REPORTED
TAGS: PINT, LY
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 06 JUL 2006